(c) the action plan of the State to develop tourism in the coastal belts of the country?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) The Department of Tourism is of the view that the Coastal Regulation Zone Notification restricts development of sustainable tourism in a sensitive manner in the coastal areas.

(b) and (c) The Department of Tourism has requested the Governments of coastal States including the Government of Karnataka to identify suitable areas as Special Tourism Zones. The Ministry of Environment and Forests has also been requested to consider relaxation for such Special Tourism Zones.

Setting up of River Basin Organisations

97. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any discussions have been held or are proposed to be held with the States for establishment of River Basin Organisations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the Government are expected to set up the River Basin Organisations in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Ministry of Water Resources has constituted a Committee under the chairmanship of Additional Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources to deliberate upon various mode(s) of River Basin Organisations and to recommend the most suitable one(s)for meeting the objectives of sustainable and optimal development of water resources of the country. The members of the Committee are: Water Resources/ Irrigation Secretaries of Gujarat, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. Commissioner (Policy & Planning), Ministry of Water Resources is its Member Secretary. Three meetings of the Committee have been held so far. The recommendation of the Committee on the model structure for River Basin Organisations have to be considered by the National Water Board.